

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-18 and 20-26 are pending in the present application. By this Response, claims 1, 4, 10, 13, 17, 20 and 26 are amended and claims 3 and 19 are canceled. Claims 1, 10, 17 and 26 are amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 3 and 19. Claims 4 and 20 are amended to correct their dependency in view of the cancellation of claims 3 and 19. Claim 13 is amended for clarification in view of the 112, second paragraph rejection raised in the Final Office Action. The amendments to the claims do not raise any new issues requiring further search or consideration and do not introduce any new matter. Therefore, entry of the amendments after the Final Office Action is proper. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

I. Telephone Interview

Applicants thank Examiner Simitoski for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the June 30, 2004 telephone interview. During the telephone interview, the above amendments to the claims were discussed. Examiner Simitoski indicated that the above amendments would be entered and that, pending the results of an updated search, the above amendments appear to place the application in condition for allowance. Therefore, it is Applicants' understanding that all of the outstanding rejections of the claims have been overcome by the amendments submitted herein.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank Examiner Simitoski for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2-4 and 18-20. By this Response, the independent claims are amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 3 and 19, respectively. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims now stand in condition for allowance.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter, which applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Office Action alleges that the phrase "the keystore is within a plurality of keystores" is indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that when the language of claim 13 is viewed as a whole, it is clear from the text "the keystore application program interface layer identifies the keystore from the plurality of keystores" (emphasis added) that the term "within" refers to the keystore being one keystore in a plurality of keystores. However, in order to make claim 13 more clear, Applicants have amended claim 13 by this Response to read "the keystore is one of a plurality of keystores." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 13 is not indefinite and request that the rejection of claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

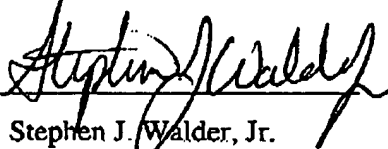
IV. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE:

July 1, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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